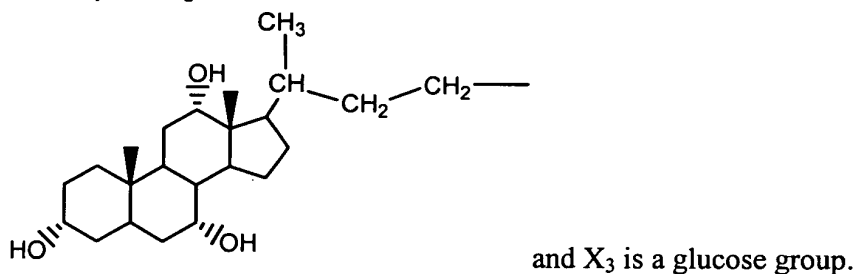
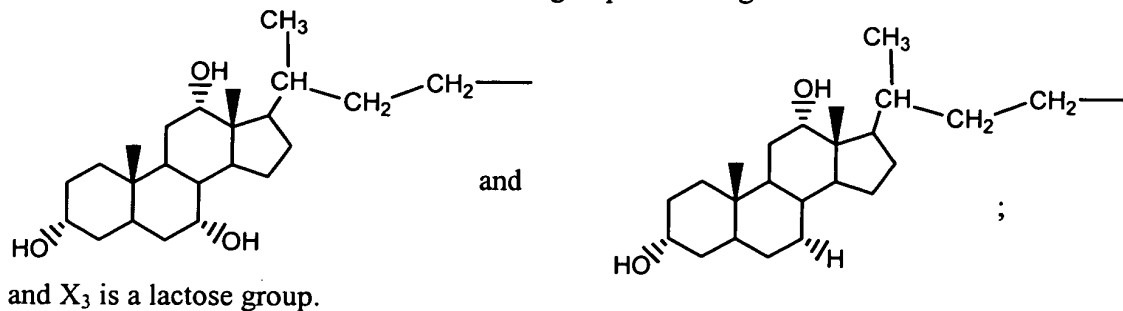


and X_3 is a saccharide group. Suitable saccharide groups include those discussed above for compounds of Formula I. In one example of a suitable compound, both X_1 and X_2 are



Additional examples of suitable compounds include, but are not limited to, those in which both X_1 and X_2 are selected from the group consisting of



REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in this application and presented for examination.
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the

current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made." Early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

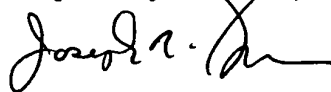
I. FORMALITIES

With the changes made to the specification, Applicants have updated the priority claim as set forth in the Application Data Sheet as filed. Further, changes have been made to set forth the chemical structures of the cholic acid group and deoxycholic acid group. Applicants believe no new matter has been introduced, and respectfully request that the amendments be entered.

II. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request early action on the merits. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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WC 9039049 v1

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

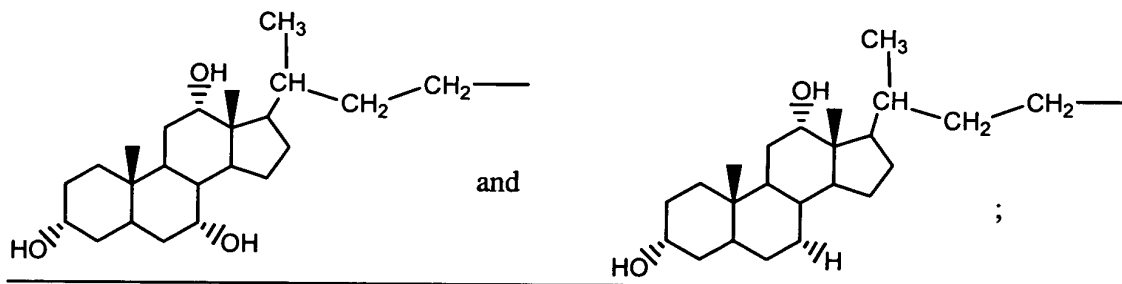
In the specification:

The first paragraph on page 1, line 9 has been amended as follows:

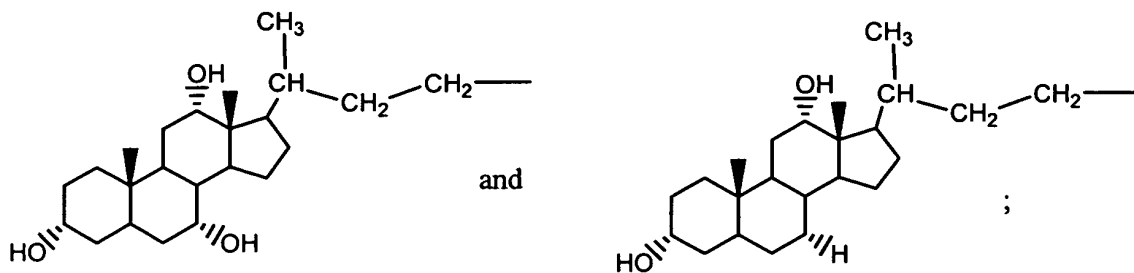
This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/112,074,
allowed, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S.S.N. 08/889,355, filed July 8, 1997,
which is a continuation-in-part of U.S.S.N. 08/584,077, filed January 8, 1996, now U.S.
Patent No. 5,789,244, each of which is incorporated by reference in its entirety for all
purposes.

The paragraph beginning at page 3, lines 7-9 has been amended as
follows:

X₁ is [a cholic acid group or a deoxycholic acid group] selected from the
group of:

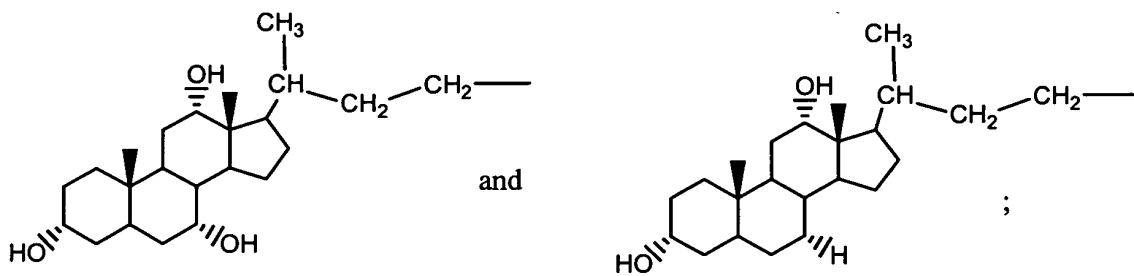


and X₂ and X₃ are each independently selected from the group consisting
of [a cholic acid group, a deoxycholic acid group and] a saccharide group,



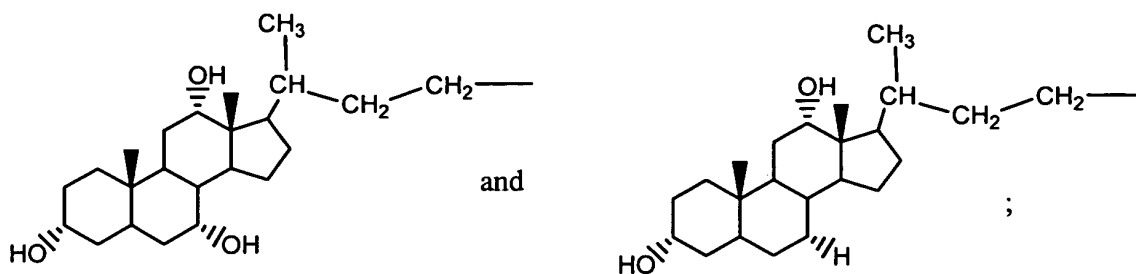
The paragraph beginning at page 3, lines 14-15 has been amended as follows:

wherein X₁ and X₂ are selected from the group consisting of **[a cholic acid group or a deoxycholic acid group]**

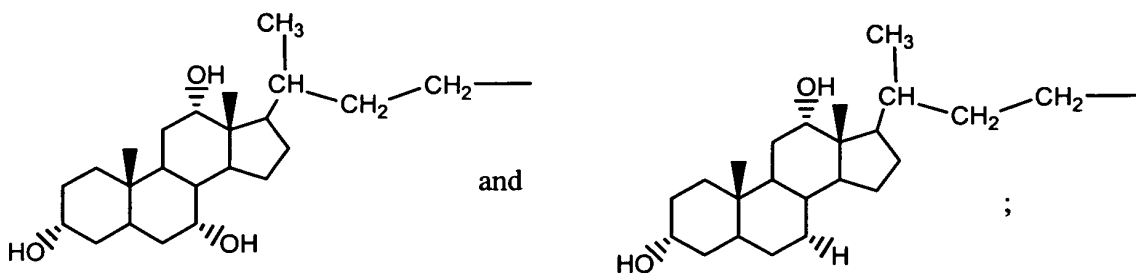


The paragraph beginning at page 11, lines 7-10 has been amended as follows:

X₁ in Formula I is generally **[a cholic acid group or a deoxycholic acid group]** selected from the group consisting of

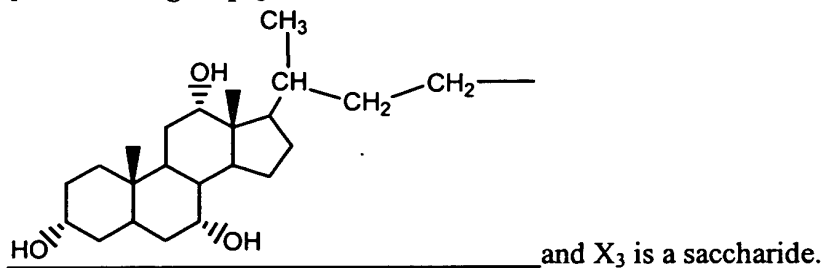


and X₂ and X₃ are each independently selected from the group consisting of **[a cholic acid group, a deoxycholic acid group, and]** a saccharide group,



The paragraph beginning at page 11, line 25 to page 12 line 7, has been amended as follows:

Examples of suitable delivery enhancing compounds of the invention include, but are not limited to, compounds of Formula I in which X₁ and X₂ are both **[cholic acid groups]**

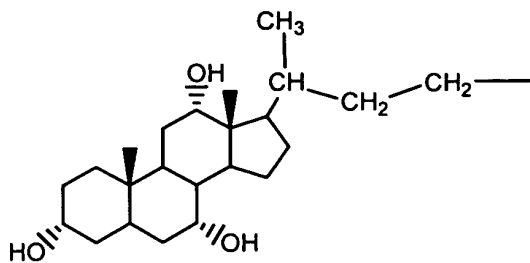


CCCC[C@H](C)[C@H]1CC[C@@H]2[C@@]1(CC[C@H]3[C@H]2CC=C4[C@@]3(CC[C@@H](C4)O)C)C

The chemical structure shows a steroid nucleus with four fused rings. The stereochemistry is indicated by wedges and dashes: a methyl group at C-10 is wedged, a hydroxyl group at C-13 is dashed, a methyl group at C-14 is wedged, and a hydroxyl group at C-15 is dashed. At C-17, there is a side chain consisting of a CH group bonded to a methyl group (CH₃) and a propyl group (CH₂-CH₂-CH₃).

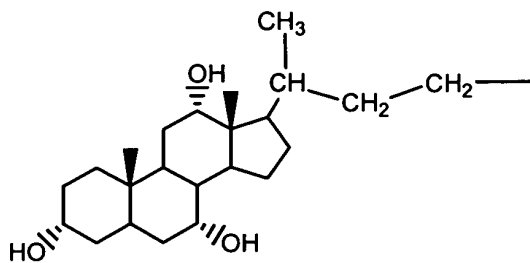
CCCC[C@H]1[C@@H](O)[C@H]2[C@@H](O)[C@H]3[C@H]1CC[C@@H]2[C@]3(O)CCCC[C@H]4[C@@H](O)CCC[C@]4(C)O

and compounds in which n is 2 or 3, X₁ and X₂ are both [cholic acid groups]



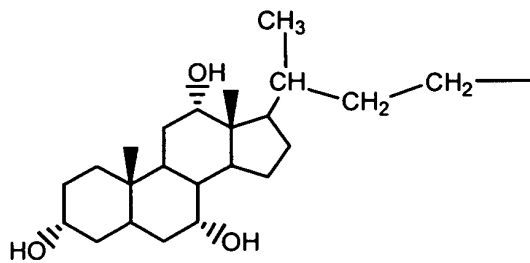
_____, and X₃ is a hexose-hexose disaccharide

group. Also suitable are compounds in which n is 2 or 3, X₁ and X₃ are both **[cholic acid groups]**



_____, and X₂ is a hexose-hexose disaccharide

group, or compounds in which n is 2 or 3, X₁ and X₂ are both **[cholic acid groups]**

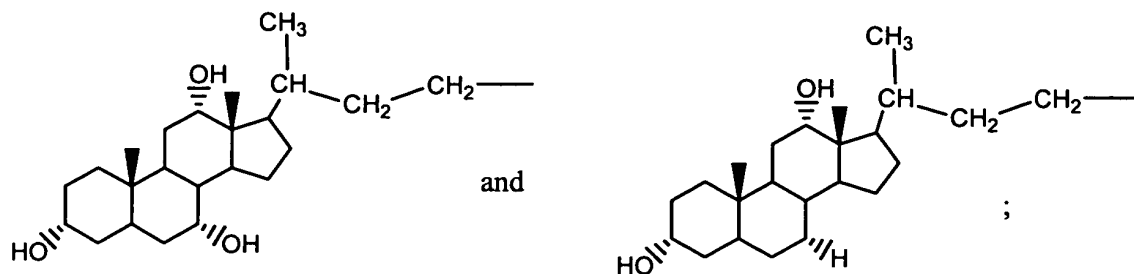


_____, and X₃ is a hexose-pentose disaccharide

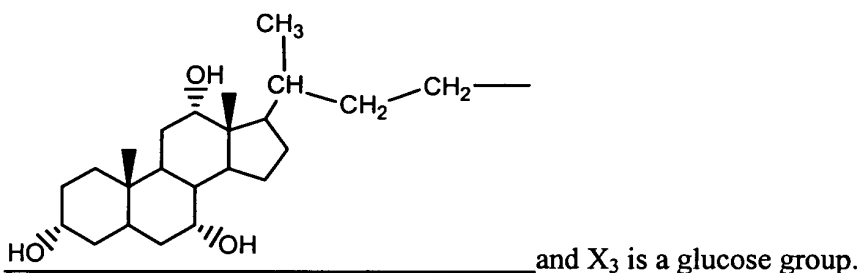
group. Compounds of Formula I that have trisaccharide groups, in particular at the X₃ position, are also preferred.

The paragraph beginning at page 12 line 25, to page 13 line 4, has been amended as follows:

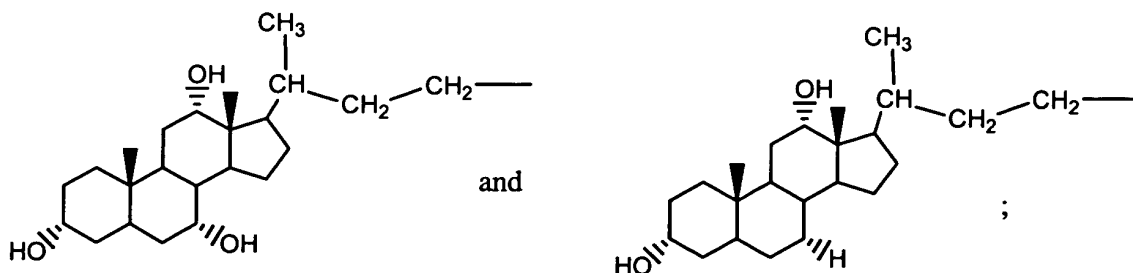
wherein X₁ and X₂ are selected from the group consisting of **[a cholic acid group and a deoxycholic acid group]**



and X₃ is a saccharide group. Suitable saccharide groups include those discussed above for compounds of Formula I. In one example of a suitable compound, both X₁ and X₂ are **[cholic acid groups]**



Additional examples of suitable compounds include, but are not limited to, those in which both X₁ and X₂ are selected from the group consisting of [are cholic acid groups or deoxycholic acid group]



and X₃ is a lactose group.